TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

FISCAL NOTE



SB 1484

January 21, 2014

SUMMARY OF BILL: Abolishes Part I and Part V of the Circuit Court of the Thirtieth Judicial District.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Expenditures – \$557,900/Recurring

Decrease Local Expenditures – \$199,400/Recurring

Assumptions:

- The bill would reduce the number of circuit court judges in the thirtieth judicial district by two. According to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), a judge's salary is \$165,204. The salary and benefits for a judge are \$218,634.89 [\$165,204 salary + (\$165,204 x .2287) benefits + (\$117,000 x .062) social security + (\$165,204 x .0145) medicare + \$5,999.28 insurance]. The total for two judges would be \$437,270 (\$218,634.89 x 2 judges).
- According to the AOC, a judge requires \$12,600 in yearly costs, which include travel (\$3,600), communications (\$2,400), book/online services (\$3,000), printing (\$600), and supplies (\$3,000). The total for two judges is \$25,200 (\$12,600 x 2 judges).
- Each judge has a legal secretary who receives a salary of \$34,000. The salary and benefits for a legal secretary are \$47,710.48 [\$34,000 + (\$34,000 x .1503) benefits + (\$34,000 x .0765) FICA + \$5,999.28 insurance]. The total for two secretaries is \$95,421 (\$47,710.48 x 2 secretaries).
- The total decrease in state expenditures would be \$557,891 (\$437,270 + \$25,200 + \$95,421).
- According to the Shelby County Mayor's Office, the bill would result in a reduction of two court clerk positions and two bailiff positions.
- Eliminating two court clerk positions would save Shelby County \$99,400 recurring. Eliminating two bailiff positions would save Shelby County \$100,000 recurring.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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